

FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED.

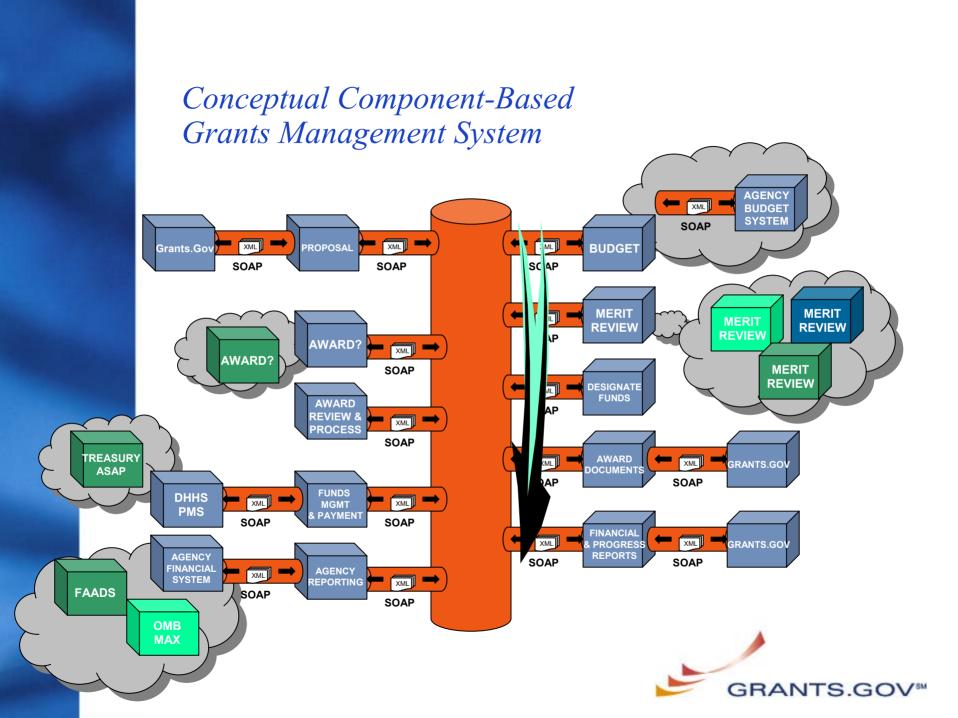
## Grants Systems: Competition and Survival

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# Consolidation: the Urge to Merge

- HHS Grants Systems Consolidation
  - One Department
  - Centers of Excellence Build Upon Success
  - NIH for Research Grants; ACF for Service and Mandatory
- Grants.gov to "Unify and Simplify" finding and applying for grants across all agencies
- HHS isn't the only agency thinking about grants systems consolidations....

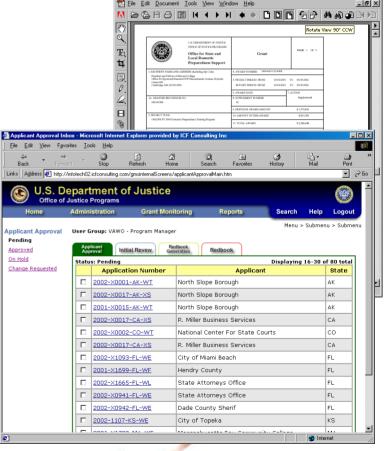




# DOJ Grants Management System (GMS)

- Production December 1999
- Fully re-architected during the past 18 months; completely Web-based
- Requirements driven from end users
- All 13 OJP offices leveraging the System
  - 10,000 applicants; 6,000 grantees
- Multiple grant types
  - Formula, block, discretionary
- 1,000's of external users, 100's of Internal users
- Standards, Web services-based technology
- Ready for Federal eGrants Initiative







## 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Vendors

- From <a href="http://www.strllc.com/egrants.htm">http://www.strllc.com/egrants.htm</a>
  - "eGrants Plus COTS product will accept applications through the Storefront"
  - "Storefront compatible STR takes on the Storefront, so you don't have to"
- Just one example and there are plenty of others
  - FreeBalance
  - Coeus



### The Big Questions

- Who is your Competition?
  - Other HHS OPDIV systems? ACF GATES?
  - Systems from other Federal Agencies? DOJ? NSF?
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Party vendors?
  - Yourself? Your customers' demands? Cycle time?
- What is your Market?
  - NIH? HHS? Other Agencies? States? Grantee Organizations?
- What is your core business?
  - Pre-Award Review? Authentication? Audit? Archive?
- In what are you the best?
  - A niche? A piece of the lifecycle? The whole world?



#### Parts are Greater than the Whole

- Assume there will be COTS and/or GOTS components and modules that need to be used at points in the future
  - Grants.gov, eAuthentication, PKI, CFDA, payment and financial systems
  - Systems for reporting, document flow, file conversion, etc.
- Be prepared to utilize external services to get out of noncore parts of the business – eAuthentication is a great example.
- Tightly linking components precludes outsourcing unpalatable parts of the business



### Components and Re-use

- OMB, via FEA and SAWG, calls for service components and re-use; see www.feapmo.gov
- There are a number of agencies desperate for systems
- We will see some winners across the federal space
- eRA needs a good "story" on component re-use
  - Find some areas to use components developed elsewhere
  - Package some components for redistribution
  - Prepare to be a service provider for parts of the workflow
  - Eliminate quirky and idiosyncratic; different isn't better, but it's so hard to see!
  - Avoid "swallow it all or go away" service



#### Personal Growth

- You are valuable as a team member of the NIH eRA team
- HHS Consolidation increases that value
  - NIH's system is used at other OPDIVs
  - Broader applicability of your experience and expertise
- What if components were used at other Agencies?
- What if, as part of eRA, you learn widely-used modules?
- Re-usable knowledge is valuable knowledge



## The Questions Again

- Who is your Competition?
- What is your Market?
- What is your core business?
- In what are you the best?

